

During that time, he traveled and performed with them in the world's most famous concert halls in Europe, South America, the Middle East and the Caribbean. He influenced the lives of hundreds of young students during those years, and inspired thousands who witnessed his performances and his musical direction.

On this coming Monday evening, September 25, Matthew Kennedy will be honored at a special event at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. That evening Nashville will salute Dr. Kennedy at the premiere of a new documentary film that is a tribute and testimony to his accomplishments and talent. The film is directed by his daughter Nina, also a recognized pianist and filmmaker. It will be a special night for Dr. Kennedy and his family. But it will also be a special night for all Nashvillians and music lovers everywhere as we pause to celebrate the life of a truly gifted and generous artist and community leader.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ON FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED
AGAINST THE UNITED STATES
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Ms. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the men, women, and children who lost their lives in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on America and to honor the heroic efforts of our first responders on that fateful day.

It is more than fitting that the resolution before us today remember the innocent victims of September 11 and pay tribute to the countless first responders who at their own peril responded to the horror of that day.

It is unfortunate then that the Republican leadership has chosen this solemn time to play politics and divide this House by inserting into this legislation references to several controversial and partisan pieces of legislation.

It is true that Democrats and Republican disagree over the policies of the administration and the Republican leadership. These policy differences include the Republican budget cuts in time of war, the failure to ensure the safety of our seaports, the failure to fully inspect aviation cargo against terrorist attacks, and the failure to provide our first responders with critical resources and equipment to adequately respond to a disaster.

It is also true that Democrats have a new direction to address these and other security concerns and the failures of this administration to adequately prepare our country for another large scale disaster. But the Republican leadership dishonors the spirit of this solemn anniversary by including divisive language in this resolution.

Controversial issues, such as certain provisions of the PATRIOT Act and the Border Protection Act, have no place in a resolution that commemorates the events of September 11, 2001. And I deeply regret that my Republican colleagues have unnecessarily cast a shadow on this solemn anniversary.

On the fifth anniversary of the September attacks, let us remember 9/11 not with political shenanigans but by respectfully remembering those who lost their lives and by honoring them with legislation that provides real homeland security for the families and friends they left behind and all Americans.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SONS AND
DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA ACT

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak about an important piece of legislation I am introducing, the Sons and Daughters of America Act.

Families who have suffered the loss of a loved one are not able to grieve in peace with dignity and respect because of people who want more than freedom of speech. They want taxpayers' compensation for their legal fees when they challenge local, State and Federal laws. "We're going to get rich off the stuff they're doing. This is finger-lickin' good," one protestor said.

It is appalling that people would profit at the cost of the honorable men and women who have served our country with courage and valor. We should all be offended by their actions and take away any opportunity for financial compensation. Families should be allowed to grieve in peace.

Many States have been forced to pass legislation to ban the picketing and protesting of funerals, including military funerals, because of protestors who refuse families the right to mourn in peace. A protestor from my home State of Kansas sued city and state officials and was awarded a total of \$217,000 in attorney's fees.

That is why I am introducing the Sons and Daughters of America Act, which will provide legal protection against frivolous lawsuits directed at statutes prohibiting picketing at military and other funerals. We already have Son of Sam laws to ensure that murderers cannot profit off of their crimes. Unfortunately, it's come to the point where we need to ensure that those who violate the sanctity of mourning cannot profit from their callousness.

I am proud to introduce today the Sons and Daughters of America Act and ask my colleagues to support this bill.

INTRODUCTION OF MARGARET
THATCHER CONGRESSIONAL
GOLD MEDAL ACT

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill with Congressman JIM MATHESON awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to Margaret Thatcher.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the Nation's highest and most distinguished civilian award. First presented to General George Washington in 1776, the Congressional Gold Medal is awarded to individuals who perform

outstanding acts of service to the security, prosperity, and national interest of the United States. Margaret Thatcher's distinguished service to the West included helping to win the cold war and reviving the economies of Europe. During her tenure as prime minister, America had no better ally.

Margaret Thatcher was the first female head of state of a Western nation, and the longest serving British prime minister in the 20th century. Soviet leaders called her the "Iron Lady." And so she was in the West's final chapter against the Soviet empire. The end of the cold war was due in no small part to her close partnership with the United States with the shared goal of defeating Eastern European communism.

Margaret Thatcher was a woman of principle and a strong leader. She resurrected a stagnant British political landscape and forever strengthened the Anglo-American relationship. For her unwavering friendship to the United States, I can think of no greater honor than bestowing on her the prestigious Congressional Gold Medal.

I want to thank my good friend Congressman JIM MATHESON for being the lead cosponsor of this legislation. I look forward to working with him and my other colleagues on this important initiative.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF NATIONAL PERIPHERAL
ARTERIAL DISEASE
AWARENESS WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 982 which offers this Chamber's support for National Peripheral Arterial Disease Awareness week.

This year, National Peripheral Arterial Disease Awareness Week occurs September 18 through September 22 and gives us a time to reflect on the need for the increased education and awareness needed to promote early detection and the proper treatment of this disease.

Peripheral arterial disease, which is a narrowing of the arteries that results in reduced blood flow to the limbs, affects between 8 million and 12 million Americans. Americans suffering from peripheral arterial disease find themselves at increased risk for heart attack, stroke and lower limb amputation. Unfortunately, most cases of peripheral arterial disease are asymptomatic, causing too many Americans not to know that they have the condition.

That is why this resolution and this Chamber's support for National Peripheral Arterial Disease Awareness Week are so important. If we can shed light on this devastating disease, more Americans will become educated about their risk factors and get the early detection and treatment to avoid the painful heart attacks, strokes and amputations that too often befall our loved ones.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this important resolution.